

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR**

**Call to Order:** Chair Mark Noland, on March 21, 2017 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Mark Noland, Chair (R)  
Rep. Amanda Curtis, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Vince Ricci, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)  
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)  
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)  
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)  
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)  
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)  
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)  
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Willis Curdy (D)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)  
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)  
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Karen Armstrong, Committee Secretary  
Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 116, 3/21/2017; SB 212, 3/13/2017; SB 312, 3/21/2017;  
SJ 13, 2/27/2017, SB 243, 3/13/2017  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON SB 116****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:46 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 116, Disallowing workers' compensation benefits for certain false statements.

00:03:52 Rep. Curdy joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:45 Brad Roy, Kalispell Regional Healthcare  
00:08:41 Terry Kramer, Kramer Enterprises  
00:11:37 Chair Noland left the meeting and Vice Chair Ricci assumed the chair.  
00:11:47 Larry Jones, Montana Self Insurers' Association  
00:13:30 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce  
00:14:03 Rep Noland joined the meeting and resumed the chair.  
00:15:36 Julia Altemus, Montana Wood Products Association  
00:16:40 Mark Baker, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)  
00:17:58 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractors' Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:18:48 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)  
**[EXHIBIT\(buh58a01\)](#)**

00:27:18 Eric Strauss, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
00:29:18 Sen. Jill Cohenour

**Informational Testimony:**

00:31:20 Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund (MSF)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:31:47 Chair Noland  
00:32:49 Brad Roy, Kalispell Regional Healthcare  
00:33:53 Chair Noland  
00:34:42 Larry Jones, Montana Self Insurers' Association  
00:37:03 Rep. Olsen  
00:37:41 Brad Roy, Kalispell Regional Healthcare  
00:38:35 Rep. Olsen  
00:39:14 Brad Roy, Kalispell Regional Healthcare  
00:39:50 Rep. Olsen  
00:40:18 Kelly Stimpson, Kalispell Regional Healthcare  
00:41:27 Rep. Curtis  
00:41:47 Eric Strauss, DLI  
00:42:34 Rep. Vinton  
00:44:21 Eric Strauss, DLI  
00:44:49 Chair Noland  
00:45:05 Kevin Braun, MSF  
00:45:54 Rep. Curdy  
00:46:46 Al Smith, MTLA  
00:47:30 Rep. Ricci  
00:48:19 Brad Roy, Kalispell Regional Healthcare

00:48:28 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy

00:48:53 Kevin Braun, MSF

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:49:36 Sen. Blasdel

**HEARING ON SB 212**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:52:07 Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 212, Revise mature defensive driving laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:54:54 Del Lonnquist, American Association of Retired Persons, Montana (AARP)

[EXHIBIT\(buh58a02\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:01:24 Bruce Spencer, All State Insurance, American Insurance Association, Farmers Insurance Group

[EXHIBIT\(buh58a03\)](#)

01:04:05 Aimee Grmoljez, Property Casualty Insurance of America (PCIA)

[EXHIBIT\(buh58a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh58a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh58a06\)](#)

01:07:49 Roger McGlenn, Independent Insurance Agents Association of Montana

01:09:44 Bob Biskupiak, State Auditors Office (SAO)

01:10:00 Rep. Funk joined the meeting.

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:10:58 Rep. Ricci

01:12:54 Bruce Spencer, Allstate Insurance, American Insurance Association, Farmers Insurance Group

01:13:06 Rep. Olsen

01:14:08 Bruce Spencer, Allstate Insurance, American Insurance Association, Farmers Insurance Group

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:15:36 Sen. Cohenour

**HEARING ON SB 243**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:20:34 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 243, Revise Montana mortgage act to create an exemption for certain loan originators.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:26:55 Greg Van Horssen, State Farm Insurance Company

**EXHIBIT(buh58a07)**

01:28:51 Chair Noland left the meeting and Vice Chair Ricci assumed the chair.

01:33:53 Chair Ricci

01:33:56 Roger Bainbridge, State Farm Bank

01:36:05 Rep. Noland joined the meeting and resumed the chair.

01:40:09 Scott Reichner, State Farm Insurance Company

01:44:08 T. J. Wendt, State Farm Insurance Company

01:47:30 Joe Mitchell, State Farm Insurance Company

01:50:23 Mike Miller, State Farm Insurance Company

01:52:43 David Jensen, State Farm Insurance Company

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:55:51 Melanie Hall, Department of Administration (DOA)

**EXHIBIT(buh58a08)**

02:03:50 Rich Bruner, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

02:06:39 Pete Johnson, Opportunity Bank of Montana

02:09:02 Edward Black, Vocal Credit Union

**EXHIBIT(buh58a09)**

02:09:27 Rep. Pierson joined the meeting.

02:10:40 Mike Richter, First Community Bank

02:12:25 Kenneth Martin, Citizens Alliance Bank

02:14:22 Jack Lawson, Missoula Federal Credit Union

02:17:10 Amy Quarles, First Security Bank of Helena

02:18:45 Ben Ruddy, Dutton State Bank

02:21:03 Jim Brown, Montana Independent Bankers Association (MIBA)

02:23:05 Chair Noland left the meeting and Vice Chair Ricci assumed the chair.

02:24:09 Carin McClain, Montana's Credit Unions (MCU)

02:25:16 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:27:12 Rep. Curtis

02:27:41 Joe Mitchell, State Farm Insurance Company

02:28:08 Rep. Vinton

02:29:10 Melanie Hall, DOA

02:29:20 Rep. Trebas

02:31:35 Jim Brown, MBA

02:33:12 Melanie Hall, DOA

02:35:01 Rep. Trebas

02:35:13 Melanie Hall, DOA

02:36:03 Rep. Grubbs

02:37:04 Melanie Hall, DOA

02:39:33 Rep. Olsen

02:39:56 Melanie Hall, DOA

02:41:11 Rep. Rosendale  
02:41:38 Greg Van Horssen  
02:42:41 Rep. Rosendale  
02:43:24 Sen. Connell  
02:46:03 Chair Ricci  
02:47:01 Melanie Hall, DOA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:47:24 Sen. Connell

**HEARING ON SB 312**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:56:05 Sen. Jeffrey Welborn (R), SD 36, opened the hearing on SB 312, Revise laws relating to prescription drug use.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

02:59:04 Lance Zanto, Labor and Management Advisory Council (LMAC)  
02:59:56 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA) and LMAC  
03:01:50 Eric Strauss, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
03:02:17 Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund (MSF)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

03:03:34 Bruce Spencer, National Council of Compensation Insurance (NCCI)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:04:52 Rep. Gunderson  
03:05:33 Al Smith, MTLA and LMAC  
03:05:52 Rep. Olsen  
03:07:00 Al Smith, MTLA and LMAC  
03:07:18 Rep. Vinton  
03:07:55 Eric Strauss, DLI

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:08:28 Sen. Welborn

**HEARING ON SJ 13**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

03:09:20 Sen. Tom Facey (D), SD 50, opened the hearing on SJ 13, Joint resolution urging Congress to address air ambulance balance billing issues.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

03:11:02 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)  
03:11:40 Bruce Spencer, Americas Health Insurance Plans  
03:12:15 Jennifer Hensley, Pacific Source Health Plans  
03:13:11 Brian Thompson, Montana Contractors' Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**     None

**Informational Testimony:**     None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

03:14:14	Rep. Curdy
03:14:32	Sen. Facey
03:14:54	Rep. Gunderson
03:15:28	Sen. Facey
03:15:36	Rep. Trebas
03:16:41	Sen. Facey

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:17:17	Sen. Facey
03:18:16	Chair Ricci

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 03:18:36

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Karen Armstrong, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([buh58aad.pdf](#))